

## PATENT CLAIMS

1. A method for orienting a bridge (3) in position relative to a dental implant (1) with the aid of a spacer member (2) which is brought into cooperation with, on the one hand, the respective implant and, on the other hand, with fastening members (11) arranged in the bridge, wherein a first sleeve-shaped part (9) included in the spacer member for the respective implant is brought into cooperation with the implant, and a second sleeve-shaped part (10) included in the spacer member for the respective implant is brought into cooperation with, on the one hand, the first sleeve-shaped part and, on the other hand, with a fastening member in the bridge, the first and second sleeve-shaped parts are made to assume assembled positions when the bridge is anchored to the implants, and, upon separation of the bridge from the implants, the first and second sleeve-shaped parts are separated so that the first sleeve-shaped part maintains its position on the respective implant, and the second sleeve-shaped part follows along with the bridge or constitutes a free part.
2. An arrangement for orienting a bridge (3) in position relative to a dental implant (1) and comprising a spacer member (2) which on the one hand cooperates with the respective implant and on the other hand permits position orientation through cooperation with fastening members arranged in the bridge, wherein the spacer members of the respective implant comprise first and second sleeve-shaped parts, where the first sleeve-shaped part (9) cooperates with the implant and the second sleeve-shaped part (10) can be joined to and separated from the first sleeve-

shaped part and has a portion (10e) which can cooperate with the fastening member in question, and wherein the first sleeve-shaped part has a longitudinal extent (L') which is related to the installation situation and is preferably shortened in relation to the second sleeve-shaped part.

3. The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 2, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part (9) has a length (L') substantially corresponding to a thickness (T) of a soft tissue (5) or a gum on the jaw bone, in which the respective implant is applied.

4. The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 1 or 2, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part (9) can be arranged in relation to and can cooperate with fibers (7) of the gingiva and, if appropriate, the periosteum (8).

5. The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 2, 3 or 4, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part cooperates with the implant via an upper flange surface (1c) on the latter.

6. The arrangement as claimed in patent claims 2-5, wherein the second sleeve-shaped part (10) has a lower sleeve-shaped portion (10a) which can be engaged on an upper portion, e.g. provided with outer thread (9a), of the first sleeve-shaped part (9).

7. The arrangement as claimed in patent claims 2-6, wherein the second sleeve-shaped part (10) has a first part which can cooperate with the first sleeve-shaped part, and a second part (10e) which is narrower in relation to the first part and which supports the portion cooperating with the fastening member (11).

8. The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 7, wherein the first and second upper parts merge on the outside via an inclined outer surface (10c) which adjoins the top surface (6a) of the soft tissue or gum.
9. The arrangement as claimed in either of patent claims 7 and 8, wherein the narrowed part (10b) is included in a narrowed bridge construction.
10. The arrangement as claimed in either of patent claims 8 and 9, wherein the first sleeve-shaped part (9) for the respective implant (1) can be anchored to the implant, and the first and second parts can be mutually guided in relation to one another by means of an internal screw (12), the head (12a) of which extends, in the assembled state, substantially level with the inclined upper surface (10c).